



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
374TH AIRLIFT WING



1 March 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR YOKOTA AIR BASE PERSONNEL

FROM: 374 AW/CC

SUBJECT: Renewed Public Health Emergency & Protective Measures on Yokota Air Base, Japan

1. **Public Health Emergency and Health Protection Condition:**

a. Pursuant to Commander, United States Forces Japan's (COMUSFJ) 6 January 2022 Health Protection Condition (HPCON) baseline directive, the HPCON level at Yokota Air Base and Tama Hills Recreation Area is **HPCON BRAVO**.

b. The transmission of COVID-19 still presents a risk to the Yokota Air Base population. Accordingly, pursuant to DoDI 6200.03, *Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Within the DoD*, dated 28 March 2019 and AFI 10-2519, *Public Health Emergencies and Incidents of Public Health Concern*, dated 10 December 2019, I have declared a Public Health Emergency (PHE) under my authority as the installation commander. This PHE declaration will remain in effect until **18 May 2022** unless renewed and republished or terminated by me or my successor.

c. The following measures are **mandatory** for all individuals present on or assigned to Yokota Air Base including, but not limited to, U.S. military members, U.S. civilian employees, dependents, DoD retirees, host nation (HN) employees, contractors, and any person accessing this installation. This order also includes personnel assigned to mission partner and tenant units. Any person who refuses to obey or otherwise violates an order during this declared public health emergency may be detained. Those not subject to military law may be detained until civil authorities can respond. Any military member who refuses to obey or otherwise violates an order during this declared PHE may be subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Those not subject to military law who refuse to obey or otherwise violate an order during this PHE may be subject to administrative action including but not limited to early return of dependents, denial of access, or debarment from the installation.

d. The following measures are effective **immediately**, unless otherwise noted, and will remain in effect until renewed and republished or terminated by me or my successor. I will review this policy at a minimum every 15 days to determine if these measures should remain in place or be amended.

e. For the purpose of this memorandum, there are two categories of vaccination status:

- **UP-TO-DATE**

Boosted: Fully-vaccinated individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine booster.

Fully-Vaccinated, Not Eligible: Fully-vaccinated individuals who are not yet eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster (i.e., individuals who completed an initial COVID-19 vaccine series

less than five months ago; or children ages 5 - 11 who have completed the initial COVID-19 vaccine series but are ineligible for the booster due to age)

Ineligible Due to Age: Children under the age of 5 who are unable to receive the initial COVID-19 vaccine series or booster.

- **NOT UP-TO-DATE**

Unvaccinated: Individuals who are not fully-vaccinated. Full vaccination is defined as 14 days or more after receipt of a second dose in a two-dose vaccine series or 14 days or more after receipt of a single-dose vaccine.

Fully-Vaccinated, Eligible: Fully-vaccinated individuals who completed an initial vaccine series more than five months ago but have not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine booster.

2. **Restriction of Movement:** When engaging in off-installation activities, SOFA-status personnel will follow local community and prefecture guidance. While on military installations, SOFA-status personnel will follow installation guidance. Additionally, non-USFJ affiliated personnel are no longer prohibited from entering Yokota Air Base or Tama Hills Recreation for unofficial purposes.

3. **Mission-Essential Travel:** Government-funded TDY travel for 374th Airlift Wing fully-vaccinated personnel may be approved by the first O-6 in the traveler's chain of command. All TDY travel requires approval unless the purpose for travel is one of the 12 exemptions listed on the Secretary of Defense memorandum, "Update to Conditions-based Approach to Coronavirus Disease 2019 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions" (15 March 2021). Additionally, commanders should give serious consideration to an individual's COVID-19 vaccine booster status prior to authorizing off-installation mission essential travel.

4. **Leave/Pass:**

a. Leave/pass to a personal residence or in the local area may be approved by a first line supervisor. Leave/pass for military or civilian employees outside of Japan may be approved by their squadron commander or equivalent. Approval authorities are required to conduct a travel risk assessment with the member and verify the HPCON status of a leave/pass location before approving requests. In conducting risk assessments, approval authorities will consider the individual's increased risk, if any, of severe illness from COVID-19; the status of COVID-19 community spread at the travel destination; the traveler(s) COVID-19 vaccination status; and the traveler(s) familiarity with self-monitoring and treating COVID-19 symptoms. If approval authorities have questions regarding risk assessments, they should speak with a public health professional.

b. Space Available flights are only permitted with an exception to policy request signed by the first O-6 or civilian equivalent in the traveler's chain of command, as delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force.

5. **Mask Wear:**

a. IAW FRAGO-001 USFJ Force Public Health Order 22-002 **all individuals on and off military installations** from any location other than the individual's home will wear a mask. This

includes Military Personnel, DoD Civilian Employees and Host-Nation Employees, Family Members, DoD contractors, and all other individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities.

b. **While off-installation in Japan, all SOFA-status personnel, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks in public**, i.e., outside of a private dwelling. Japanese citizens commonly wear masks in public settings and our personnel should do so off-installation to prevent the spread of infection and to promote a responsible image to the host nation civilian population.

c. This mask mandate **does not apply** on military installations in Japan under the following circumstances:

- For children under the age of two (2) years old;
- **Outdoors on an US installation if up-to-date or fully vaccinated and can maintain social distance. Mask wear off base is still required;**
- **Indoors on a US installation while actively engaging in physical fitness activities such as individual or team sports when social distancing will occur. Mask wear when not actively participating is required (e.g., on the sidelines);**
- When alone in an office with floor-to-ceiling walls with a closed door;
- For brief periods of time when eating or drinking on the installation in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and instructions from commanders and supervisors;
- When a mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes; or
- When necessary to reasonably accommodate an individual with a disability.

6. **Isolation and Quarantine Policies**: In most circumstances, individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, will be able to isolate or quarantine at home after consultation with a COVID-19 medical provider.

7. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring the safety and security of everyone. As an added safety measure, all Yokota personnel **should be cognizant of the transmissibility of COVID-19 and consider limiting large gatherings and/or practicing social distancing**. I recognize these measures place burden on our families, however, they are absolutely essential to protecting our entire community. It requires a total commitment from everyone in order to reduce risk to all personnel who live and work on the installation.

8. If there are any questions on these measures, please consult your chain of command or the installation Public Affairs office at 374aw.pav3@us.af.mil.

ANDREW J. CAMPBELL, Colonel, USAF
Commander